

10-23-98 12:58PM

FROM Medicaid Bureau

TO 918164263851

P002/012

10/23/98 cc me + Tim



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Health Care Financing Administration

Center for Medicaid and State Operations
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

OCT 22 1998

Mr. Greg Vadner
Director
Missouri Department of Social Services
Division of Medical Services
P.O. Box 6500
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-6500

Dear Mr. Vadner:

We have received a copy of the "Missouri MEDICAID Bulletin" (Special Bulletin; Vol.21, No. 1; September 11, 1998). This Bulletin (enclosed) describes the circumstances under which *cos-sharing* may be charged to children eligible for Medicaid services through Title XXI and notifies that "providers may deny services for children ...if they do not pay co-pay" (emphasis in original). It also indicates that non-emergency transportation will not be included in the Medicaid benefit package for the children in the Tide XXI plan.

As we indicated in our letter to you of September 11 (enclosed), in order for a State to impose cost-sharing on these children, Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration waivers would be required. As you know, pursuant to Section 1115(a) of the statute, Medicaid waivers should be "experimental, pilot, or demonstration" projects and therefore require approved evaluation plans as a condition of waiver award. It is for this reason that we are requiring evaluations on the effects of cost-sharing requirements for children and on the effects of not providing non-emergency medical transportation for the children and adults in the expansion populations. We have been working closely with your staff on the development of these plans and the Department is currently reviewing your revised evaluation proposals. However, we are not able to award the necessary waivers or give our final approval until such time as the Department has approved your evaluation plans.

Page 2 - Mr. Greg Vadner

I request that you address this problem immediately by issuing another Bulletin to the appropriate parties advising them that the cost-sharing requirements cannot be imposed at this time and that services cannot be denied for the lack of a co-pay. Please provide us with a copy of that Bulletin as soon as it becomes available.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Goetschius, the Missouri project officer, at (410) 786-0707. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/

Sally K. Richardson
Director

Enclosures

cc: Judith Flynn, Kansas City Regional Office